

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700261

A. List of Restoration Activities

Two restoration projects are proposed: The first is to move the gate at the south end of Potrero Seco Road to restore wildlife habitat. The existing metal gate adequately blocks the road but is located next to a low area that fills with winter rainwater and snowmelt. This serves as important wildlife habitat and watering pond in this generally dry ridge setting. Operators of 4WD's have discovered these small ponds and have established a pattern of driving around and through them. The resulting impacts to wildlife represent effects on a natural resource system that require restoration to sustain viable wildlife species populations. A suitable location to move the gate to has been found about ¼ mile north of the current site. The spot would allow room for vehicles to turn around yet be situated where vehicles cannot drive around the gate. This location would stop public traffic before it reaches these vernal pools. Pools areas would be raked to return the landform to its pre-existing shape and to eliminate wheel tracks. Carsonite signs would be added to help ensure no new vehicle tracks occur at this site.

The second project is to block illegal OHV use occurring off Cherry Creek Road. Proposal is to block illegal use currently occurring off the side of Cherry Creek Road. This pattern of illegal OHV use has developed over the last few years. Past efforts to block such use with some limited tractor work and signing has had only partial success. Proposal is to install 1000 feet of metal pipe fence near the edge of this legal road to physically exclude OHV use off-road. Signs to educate users about this project would be installed. Currently, this illegal OHV use is causing impacts to an archaeological site. In addition, drivers of these vehicles are putting themselves in the line of fire from the many recreational target shooters that legally use this same area.

B. How the Proposed Project Relates to OHV Recreation

The proposed projects support the long-term viability of OHV recreation in both cases by keeping OHV's on designated routes only and by blocking off-route travel in these two trouble spots. Without the requested funding to perform these projects, OHV use will continue to occur in these two areas, as previous attempts to contain vehicle use on designated routes has not been completely successful.

C. Size of Project Site

The Potrero Seco gate project involves moving the gate approximately 1/4 mile north on this road, and would also involve restoration of 4 acres of damaged area in and around these pond areas.

The Cherry Creek fence project would involve 1000 feet (.19 miles) of metal fence being installed.

D. Monitoring and Methodology

Each of these projects will be monitored for effectiveness of these proposed treatments. The frequency of monitoring will vary with the season. As both routes are typically closed in the winter to protect the roadbed from wet-weather damage, no monitoring is required then. However, when open, monitoring of Cherry Creek would occur every two weeks in the first year, and out-year monitoring strategies and frequencies would be developed accordingly. The same would be true of the Potrero Seco gate area. Any further intrusions into these areas would be documented on OHV daily activity logs and with photos as part of our on-going recordkeeping.

E. List of Reports

F. Goals, Objectives and Methodology / Peer Reviews

These proposed restoration projects do not involve scientific and cultural studies, so this section does not apply to our proposed project.

G. Plan for Protection of Restored Area

The restored areas will be protected in the future by a combination of law enforcement patrols to prevent further intrusion into the project areas coupled with the addition of signs that identify the areas for no vehicles. Patrols will also observe any

damage to the proposed metal pipe fence in Cherry Creek and will immediately correct any damage that occurs. The Ojai Ranger District personnel are committed to providing adequate monitoring and oversight of these damaged areas to prevent a reoccurrence of these two problems.

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Version # _____

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1. Project-Specific Maps

Attachments:

[Map of OHV Restoration Projects for Ojai RD](#)

2. Project-Specific Photos

Attachments:

[Photo Captions for Restoration Projects, Ojai RD](#)

[Cherry Cr. Rd. Fenceline Project--see captions](#)

[Potrero Seco Pond Restoration Project \(Gate Relocation\)](#)

[Potrero Seco Gate](#)

[Location of Proposed Potrero Seco Gate Relocation](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - Los Padres National Forest
Application: Restoration - Ojai

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	USFS - Los Padres National Forest		
PROJECT TITLE :	Restoration - Ojai	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Development</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Planning</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration</div> </div>		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>Two restoration projects are proposed: The first is to move the gate at the south end of Potrero Seco Road to restore wildlife habitat. The existing metal gate adequately blocks the road but is located next to a low area that fills with winter rainwater and snowmelt. This serves as important wildlife habitat and watering pond in this generally dry ridge setting. Operators of 4WD's have discovered these small ponds and have established a pattern of driving around and through them. The resulting impacts to wildlife represent effects on a natural resource system that require restoration to sustain viable wildlife species populations. A suitable location to move the gate to has been found about ¼ mile north of the current site. The spot would allow room for vehicles to turn around yet be situated where vehicles cannot drive around the gate. This location would stop public traffic before it reaches these vernal pools. Pools areas would be raked to return the landform to its pre-existing shape and to eliminate wheel tracks. Carsonite signs would be added to help ensure no new vehicle tracks occur at this site.</p> <p>The second project is to block illegal OHV use occurring off Cherry Creek Road. Proposal is to block illegal use currently occurring off the side of Cherry Creek Road. This pattern of illegal OHV use has developed over the last few years. Past efforts to block such use with some limited tractor work and signing has had only partial success. Proposal is to install 1000 feet of metal pipe fence near the edge of this legal road to physically exclude OHV use off-road. Signs to educate users about this project would be installed. Currently, this illegal OHV use is causing impacts to an archaeological site. In addition, drivers of these vehicles are putting themselves in the line of fire from the many recreational target shooters that legally use this same area.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Recreation Planner	5.000	361.000	DAY	0.00	1,805.00	1,805.00
	OHV Coordinator	10.000	186.000	DAY	0.00	1,860.00	1,860.00
	Other-FS inspector/COR on pipe fence con Notes : Salary for FS engineers to be inspector and COR on metal pipe fence contract.	7.000	308.000	DAY	0.00	2,156.00	2,156.00
	Other-Volunteers	49.000	158.000	DAY	0.00	7,742.00	7,742.00
	Total for Staff				0.00	13,563.00	13,563.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - Los Padres National Forest
Application: Restoration - Ojai

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
2	Contracts						
	Heavy Equipment Operator Notes : Contract for operator to move Potrero Seco gate.	30.000	65.000	HRS	1,950.00	0.00	1,950.00
	Other-Serv contr: install/provide metal Notes : Service contract for installation of metal pipe fence. Contractor to provide metal pipe.	1000.000	35.000	FT	35,000.00	0.00	35,000.00
	Total for Contracts				36,950.00	0.00	36,950.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Route Markers Notes : Carsonite posts	14.000	22.000	EA	0.00	308.00	308.00
	Route Markers Notes : Decals for Carsonite posts	28.000	2.500	EA	0.00	70.00	70.00
	Other-Sacks of cement-Potrero Seco gate Notes : Cement for Potrero Seco gate project	56.000	8.000	EA	448.00	0.00	448.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				448.00	378.00	826.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Equipment Rental Notes : Backhoe rental	3.000	290.000	DAY	870.00	0.00	870.00
	Equipment Rental Notes : Backhoe delivery and pick-up	1.000	170.000	EA	170.00	0.00	170.00
	Other-Rental of cement mixer Notes : Cement mixer rental	2.000	50.000	DAY	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				1,140.00	0.00	1,140.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: USFS - Los Padres National Forest
 Application: Restoration - Ojai

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
7	Administrative Costs						
Total Program Expenses					38,538.00	13,941.00	52,479.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					38,538.00	13,941.00	52,479.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					38,538.00	13,941.00	52,479.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - Los Padres National Forest
Application: Restoration - Ojai

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	0.00	13,563.00	13,563.00	
2	Contracts	36,950.00	0.00	36,950.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	448.00	378.00	826.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	1,140.00	0.00	1,140.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Program Expenses		38,538.00	13,941.00	52,479.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		38,538.00	13,941.00	52,479.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		38,538.00	13,941.00	52,479.00	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

Both of these projects are positive steps designed to protect wet areas or sensitive habitat and species. Proposed movement of the Potrero Seco gate will mitigate the current OHV impacts on seasonal ponds that serve as watering holes for a multitude of wildlife species in a dry, hot setting. Installation of the metal pipe fencing along Cherry Creek Road will eliminate off-road travel that currently causes increased sedimentation into the road ditch that leads to endangered southern steelhead habitat in Sespe Creek that is adjacent to the project site.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

Both of these restoration projects are designed to mitigate current damage to resources stemming from illegal OHV use occurring off designated routes. Expected results from these projects are anticipated to reduce these illegal OHV use patterns in these two areas in terms of containing OHV traffic on designated routes, thereby improving local ecosystems in a cumulative manner. As these two projects are implemented, cumulative impacts are expected to be of a positive nature. The resources that will benefit are wildlife, archaeology, soils, and Wild and Scenic River (as the adjacent segment of Sespe Creek is a study river).

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

The metal pipe fence project along Cherry Creek Road is expected to have a positive effect on the environment as it eliminates OHV's from both steep slopes and moderately erosive soils. This project will benefit the environment in terms of protecting steep slopes and erosive soils.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

California State Highway 33 is officially designated as a state scenic highway. Additionally, this road is also designated as a national forest scenic byway. Cherry Creek Road begins at Highway 33, and the project site is within the viewshed of the highway. The proposed metal pipe fencing would be visually subordinate to travelers along this scenic highway, as it is planned to run "with" the line of sight of highway travelers rather than "across" it. It will also be visually dwarfed by being installed at the toe of the hill that is receiving the illegal OHV traffic and the closest end of the fence would be over 300 feet from the highway. Also, the fencing will be allowed to rust naturally to allow it to blend in with its surroundings as seen from the highway. At the same time, the project will improve scenic resources within this viewshed by eliminating the illegal OHV use that is creating damage to scenic resources within this viewshed.

The Potrero Seco gate project is not within the viewshed of a state scenic highway.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

Neither of these two projects are expected to cause indirect significant impacts. User groups are not expected to go elsewhere as a result of implementing these projects. No significant impacts are expected off-site. Use will not increase significantly in the vicinity of either project site.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[NEPA_letter_to_file_05012009](#)

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2.

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Failure to fund the Project will result in adverse impacts to: 2

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Domestic water supply (4 points)
☐ Archeological and historical resources identified in the California Register of Historical Resources or the Federal Register of Historic Places (3 points)
☐ Stream or other watercourse (3 points)
☒ Soils - Site actively eroding (2 points)
☐ Sensitive areas (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of sensitive habitats
☐ Threatened and Endangered (T&E) listed species (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of T&E species
☐ Other special-status species- Number of special-status species (1 point each, up to a maximum of 3) Enter number of special-status species

Describe the type and severity of impacts that might occur relative to the checked item(s):

Soil is actively eroding at both project sites. At Cherry Creek, such erosion is occurring on moderately steep slopes near riparian areas.

3. Reason for Project - Q 3.

3. Reason for the Project 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Protect special-status species or cultural site (4 points)
☒ Restore natural resource system damaged by OHV activity (4 points)
☐ OHV activity in a closed area (3 points)
☐ Alternative measures attempted, but failed (2 points)
☐ Management decision (1 point)
☐ Scientific and cultural studies (1 point)
☐ Planning efforts associated with Restoration (1 point)

Reference Document

A Decision Memo has been completed for these projects. A copy is attached

4. Measures to Ensure Success - Q 4.

4. Measures to ensure success –The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation 4

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Site monitoring to prevent additional damage
- ☒ Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
- ☐ Use of native plants and materials
- ☐ Incorporation of universally recognized 'Best Management Practices'
- ☐ Educational signage
- ☐ Identification of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

Explain each item checked above:

Site monitoring will be completed as described in Section G of Project Description.

Construction of barriers at both project sites is a principal component to these projects.

5. Publicly Reviewed Plan - Q 5.

5. Is there a publicly reviewed and adopted plan (e.g., wilderness designation, land management plans, route designation decisions) that supports the need for the Restoration Project? 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (5 points)

Identify plan

The restoration project is in compliance with the goals and objectives of the Los Padres National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and all the applicable laws, regulations, and policies (page 71).

6. Primary Funding Source - Q 6.

6. Primary funding source for future operational costs associated with the Project will be: 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
☒ Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
☐ Other Grant funding (2 points)
☐ OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s):

7. Public Input - Q 7.

7. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Public meeting held on March 25, 2009 to discuss project and seek public input.

Los Padres National Forest holds quarterly meetings with our OHV stakeholders, including CORVA.

8. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 8.

8. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 1

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)

☒ 1 (1 point)

☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Gold Coast Cruisers 4WD Club

9. Scientific and Cultural Studies - Q 9.

9. Scientific and cultural studies will

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Determine appropriate Restoration techniques (2 points)
- ☐ Examine potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources (2 points)
- ☐ Examine methods to ensure success of Restoration efforts (1 point)
- ☐ Lead to direct management action (1 point)

Explain each item checked above

10. Underlying Problem - Q 10.

10. The underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration Project has been effectively addressed and resolved 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (3 points)

Explain 'Yes' answer

If funded, this grant will correct the underlying problem, which is off-route travel by OHV's. In addition, monitoring for effectiveness of these treatments will provide an important feedback mechanism for these solutions.

11. Size of sensitive habitats - Q 11.

11. Size of sensitive habitats (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) within the Project Area which will be restored 0

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Greater than 10 acres (5 points)
- ☐ 1 – 10 acres (3 points)
- ☐ Less than 1 acre (1 points)
- ☒ No sensitive habitat within Project Area (No points)